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PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:	Michael Austin
Application No.:	09/966,686
Filed:	October 1, 2001
For:	A Method and Apparatus for Contracting, Loading or Crimping Self-Expanding and Balloon Expandable Stent Devices
Examiner:	Marc Jimenez
Group Art Unit:	3726

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Docket No.: S63.2-7405-US02

## FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL LETTER

TO: Examiner Jimenez

DATE: July 22, 2004

FACSIMILE NO.: 703-872-9306

TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

GROUP ART UNIT: 3726

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover letter): \_\_\_\_\_

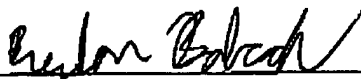
Following please find a 7 page Amendment in addition to this 1 page Facsimile Transmittal Letter.

If a fee is required, Commissioner of Patents is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 22-0350 for any required fees. To the extent that any petition is required to consider this communication, please treat this as such a petition.

Respectfully Submitted,

VIDAS, ARRETT &amp; STEINKRAUS, P.A.

Date: July 22, 2004

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 703-872-9306, on July 22, 2004.

Signature: 

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